

February 7, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

### **The Detroit News: Michigan Supreme Court spikes lawsuit over road dust, fatal crash**

"The state Supreme Court says a northern Michigan road agency can't be sued over the death of a teenager whose fatal crash was blamed on road dust. The justices overturned a decision by the state appeals court and directed a judge to dismiss the case against the Manistee County Road Commission."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Associated Press: Court spikes lawsuit over road dust, fatal crash**

[Full story](#)

**Note:** The article also ran in the Herald-Palladium/St. Joseph and the Midland Daily News.

### **The Detroit News: Briefs: Court: Police check not a shield from drug charges**

"A Hazel Park man can be charged with drug crimes after police checking on his well-being entered his home without a warrant and found marijuana growing in a closet. The Michigan Court of Appeals reversed an Oakland County judge and reinstated the case Wednesday against Eric Hill."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **The Daily Tribune: Court: Drug charge OK in worried neighbor case**

[Full story](#)

**Note:** The article also ran in the Detroit Legal News, the Macomb Daily and the Oakland Press.

### **Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Court allows drug charges to stand in worried neighbor case**

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Free Press: Michigan AG Bill Schuette loses challenge to remove most of Detroit's school board**

"The state attorney general has lost a court challenge to remove most of Detroit's school board. In an order signed on Feb. 5, Wayne Circuit Court Judge John Gillis Jr. denied State Attorney General Bill Schuette's motion for summary disposition and granted the school board's motion, effectively allowing the school board to continue to hold office."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **The Detroit News: Judge tosses Schuette's bid to oust 7 Detroit school board members**

[Full story](#)

### **The Detroit News: Detroit man mounts legal defense with freestyle rap (fifth article)**

"A Detroit man accused of threatening to kill his girlfriend made his case before a Macomb County judge — in a freestyle rap. During his arraignment by video from a city lockup in Warren, Callius Moon rapped Tuesday about people trying to 'put it on me,' among other things, according to WJBK-TV."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**Detroit Free Press: Accused of threatening to kill his girl, man raps his defense in court**

[Full story](#)

**WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit: Family sets the record straight about courtroom rapper**

[Full story](#)

**WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: Warren man entertains judge with rap performance during arraignment**

[Full story](#)

**The Detroit News: Boost jury diversity, panel in Dearborn urges; Judges, attorneys call for action to properly represent community**

"The lack of racial and ethnic diversity in state and federal court jury pools must be resolved through court action and community participation, said a panel of judges and attorneys Wednesday."

[Full story](#)

**Associated Press: Snyder's budget: More Mich. state police troopers**

"... [Gov. Rick] Snyder also is proposing adding \$2 million to the state's mental health courts. Michigan currently has nine mental health courts and Snyder's proposal would allow for the creation of additional courts."

[Full story](#)

**Grand Rapids Press: Former Zeeland attorney in 'very dark place' to steal from dying clients planning estates**

"In a courtroom filled with victims of a former Zeeland attorney's fraud, a federal judge sentenced Kenneth Hoesch to 6½ years in prison. Hoesch pleaded guilty to mail fraud after stealing \$800,000 from clients' estate trusts."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**Holland Sentinel: Former Zeeland attorney Ken Hoesch sentenced for fraud, tax violation**

[Full story](#)

**Hometown Life Newspapers: Winding down: Appeals court ruling in favor of Eagle school sale remains in effect**

"A Michigan Supreme Court ruling Saturday, Feb. 2 was good news for Farmington Public Schools, but it still has to wait 21 days to put to bed a two-year controversial lawsuit over the sale of Eagle Elementary School to the Islamic Cultural Association.... The 21 days is the window plaintiffs, Mel Sternfeld and Eugene Greenstein, have to again ask the Michigan Supreme Court to reconsider Saturday's ruling."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**Hometown Life Newspapers: Over and out: It's time to welcome Islamic Cultural Center**

[Full story](#)

**Hometown Life Newspapers: Gun charges against ex-House Speaker dropped**

"People can't be charged with a crime simply for possessing a firearm while intoxicated inside their home, the Michigan Court of Appeals has ruled in a case arising from an incident involving former state House Speaker Craig DeRoche."

[Full story](#)

## **Hometown Life Newspapers: Ruling on new Pyne trial likely at least a year away**

"Facing 20-60 years in prison for the murder of his mother, Jeffrey Pyne will likely wait at least a year — possibly two — for an appellate court to rule whether or not he'll get a new trial. 'It will depend on the panel (of judges), the issues raised,' said Oakland County Prosecutor Jessica Cooper, a former appellate judge."

[Full story](#)

## **Hometown Life Newspapers: Substance abuse, mental health, suicide subjects of talk**

"The Farmington Area Suicide Prevention Task Force will host a Community Conversation [on Wednesday February 13] focusing on the inter-relationship between substance abuse, mental health, and suicide. The event is open to all members of the community.... Featured speakers at the Community Conversation will include:... Judge Marla Parker, 47th District Court."

[Full story](#)

## **Jackson County Legal News: Women for Equity**

"Jackson Women For Equity committee members Molly Kaser, Regina Funkhouser, retired Jackson County 12th District Judge Carlene Lefere, and attorney Susan Dehncke pose for a photograph at the recent Women for Equity discussion and dessert with Michigan State Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer. The event was held at the Cascades Manor House."

[Full story](#)

## **The Macomb Daily: Accused Fraser child molester remains jailed despite delay**

"An accused child molester remains in custody while his trial is on hold because the state Supreme Court agreed to consider a key issue in the case. Stanley Duncan, 66, will continue residing in the county jail in Mount Clemens on a \$1.25 million bond after Judge Matthew Switalski denied his reduction motion."

[Full story](#)

**Note: The article also ran in the Oakland Press.**

## **The MiLW Blog: COA scolds workers' comp commissioner**

"In a recent unpublished decision, it took a Court of Appeals panel one sentence to affirm a Workers' Compensation Appellate Commission's award of benefits, and about a page and a half to scold dissenting Commissioner Gregory Przybylo."

[Full story](#)

## **Muskegon Chronicle: Driving up fees: Of mopeds and mail -- things to know about Michigan's driver responsibility fees**

"... For those who do get pulled over, the usual consequence is paying a traffic ticket or, if a judge or magistrate gets involved for a more serious offense, fines and costs. If the violation is bad enough, it might require probation or jail time.... [But for many in] Michigan there's a thing called a driver responsibility fee, separate from the courts and part of no criminal penalty but just as real and even more inflexible."

[Full story](#)

## **Oakland County Legal News: Judicial watchdog drops complaint against Hathaway**

"The state agency that monitors judges for misconduct is dropping its complaint against Diane Hathaway now that she's no longer on the Michigan Supreme Court."

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **Oakland County Legal News: State of district court provided**

"Oakland County 52nd District Court Chief Judge Julie Nicholson delivered the annual State of the Court address to the Oakland County Board of Commissioners on Wednesday, Jan. 23, in the Board of Commissioner's Auditorium in Pontiac."

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **Oakland County Legal News: Grant elected as new chair of Judicial Tenure Commission**

"Oakland County Circuit Court Chief Judge Nanci Grant was unanimously elected as chairperson of the Michigan Judicial Tenure Commission (JTC) during its February meeting. Grant was elected to the bench in 1996 and was elected in 2007 to the JTC by the state's circuit court judges as their representative."

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **Washtenaw County Legal News: County welcomes new judge; Carol Kuhnke takes oath as 22nd Circuit Court Judge**

"Washtenaw County's newest Circuit Court Judge was praised at her Feb. 1 investiture as a tireless worker whose calm demeanor and sense of integrity will be an asset to the bench."

[\*Full story\*](#)

### **WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit: Judge under fire as bonded felon faces murder charges**

"[Washtenaw County Circuit Judge Archie Brown] is under fire after he let a criminal go free after he admitted to armed robbery. Police say that same man committed a murder just days later."

[\*Full story\*](#)